Nov. 16.

Felt bad all day, for my hand has been worse, but my nose is nearly well. Will put a poultice on the boil to-night. Mosquitoes are very bad tonight. All the big boys have gone hunting to stay over night. The two Mr. Kirke also went. School went well but Velma was a little contrary. She hid under the seat to make me think she hadn't come in, and I pretended to get very angry with her, but I felt much amused nevertheless. I will spank her some day. Nobody can have their way in my school even if I am fond of them.

Nov. 17.

Have had a bad day of it today, owing to my hand which is very painful. School teaching was hard, but got through all right. Have had high fever all afternoon and evening; expect a bad night tonight.

Nov. 18.

Slept badly last night, and found my hand greatly swollen and inflamed this morning.

Day was cloudy and rainy this morning but windy and clear this afternoon. We sailed up with a strong south wind this evening, the first time we have yet had a strong fair wind all the way ho
My hand is often and much less painful this evening, but is still inflamed and swo
Cora dressed it for me today and she did it in a very gentle and excellent manner
The hunters have not come in yet
Feel better this evening.

Nov. 19.

Stayed at home and wrote letters today it is Saturday. My hand is much litte but is still painful and swollen. Tried to catch some snappers this morning a we had nothing much to eat. No su ess. The hunters came in this evening at dark with one deer and a turkey. They have killed six deer and several turkeys but secured only 5 deer and 2 turkeys. Noah & Reese were hunting one morning yesterday I think, and they heard a fourth

jump on a deer and kill it two hundred yards away, but instead of running toward the noise of the fight they hesitated for a few minutes and then sneaked up, but the panther had dragged his deer off into the swamp by the time they arrived on the grounds and they wouldn't go in after him. They were very particular about their own skin. I sculled up to Demerritte this evening for ~~exe~~ exercise.

Nov 20

The boys and old man went back to the woods again this morning to stay several days. I went to Harts and then Claude Hart and I went on to Marco in his boat. We had a fine sail and on the way met Jean Johnson and the sloop returning from Marco. He had a bundle of papers and two letters from me; one letter from Annie S. and one from Iris. Reached Marco about twelve and finished my business and then went on up to Collier to see Miss Vick. Claude and I stayed there for dinner and I paid for both.

I asked Miss Vick if she would help us with our Sunday School, but she didn't want to. She didn't seem to think much of Sunday School. I asked her how it was I had seen her in S.S. several times, and she said she did go those times "but not from choice" When I heard that my opinion of Mayme Vick turned three somersaults and then fell flat. I always had thought well, very well indeed, of her, but I somehow have a different feeling entirely toward her now. Mr. Collier said he "thought Sunday School were a pretty good thing". He didn't believe much in religion himself, but he "noticed that it had the effect of making other people pay him the money they owed him" and "kept them from stealing his cocoanuts and fruit" so he "thought they were useful things in a manner". Claude and I sailed up Marco Channel, our homeward way, and then came through a lot of narrow "creeks" and small bays until finally we came out into Johnson's Channel near Johnson's house.

I stopped at Harts for a while this evening. Mr. Weaver and Jean J. were there. When I came away Blanche and Jean raced with me up to the Middle of Henderson Bay. Jean was first, I second and Blanche last to the Anger Hole, but they both beat me in the bay. We had oysters for supper. I took up to Mr. Demeritt some of the papers I got today. Very few skaters today. My hand is greatly improved and I can use it. Miss Mayme Vick sent me a Review of Reviews, Nov. number. Thanks, Miss Vick; I'll read it with pleasure. Sent Washburn the money for those books and then also returned one book I did not need, a physiology; sent him a dollar, which is 5¢ too much.

Saw Davis news items in the Press and the one item about our school house being tilted over and having been proffed, looked very funny.

Nov. 21

Sailed down with a fine wind this morning and most of the way back this evening. Took my washing down to Mrs. H. Hall this morning and got

the washed clothes as I came bac
this evening. School went very
well today because I had mo
energy than I had last wee
My hand is much better, but I fe
I will have trouble with it yet.
We had clam fritters for suppe
and I didn't like them much,
only ate seven. The boys ate tw
and so I had most of clams to
myself which didn't please me a

Nov. 22.

School went well today, and
grammar pupils did exceedingly we
Lassa Williams, who came in last Tu
day, left today for Ft. Ogden where
mother lives. Her father and mothe
have separated, her mother is a good
woman so they say, but her ~~moth~~
father is a libertine and is now
living with another man's wife. Las
is a good girl and a bright student

We cried, Cora and the other girls cried and felt sorry for them all. Had oysters for supper. Sailed part of the way up. Mr. & Mrs. K went to Nares, but did not bring me any mail. Hand is getting better

Nov. 23

School went well today. Only eight were present, but they studied well. Blanche prepared her article for the Press. Got some oysters as we came home this evening and then George and I opened them. Dan sailed the boat up the creek. Tomorrow is Thanksgiving and we will have a roast turkey instead of boiled turkey and dumplings.

Nov 24

Thanksgiving day this is and a very pleasant day I have had. This morning the three eldest boys and I went to the beach, where we spent the day in fishing and

having a good time generally. We had a grains, and in a little lagoon we found some young saw-fish, six or seven of which we killed. I killed two by jumping on them with my big shoes. I saved four saws, but the saws are too young. We fished at the mouth of the lagoon, which is about fifteen feet wide and four feet deep, and we caught four big red-fish and two cat-fish. We lost two hooks and the fish that had them in their mouths. I caught a young shark, and in the afternoon tried to spear several more little ones but missed them all. I pulled off my pants and wading the little bayou went along the beach trying to spear red fish but the water was too muddy. The boys said I looked funny and I expect I did. When I came back I took off my

weather and threw it to the boys on the other side, then I took a running jump and landed in the middle of the lagoon. The red fish all left for they thought it was a shark. I had sailed the boat out of the bass in the morning and had a lively ride. About noon we pushed the boat out through the breakers and two of us sailed back to the bass while the other two ran along the beach. We had for dinner turkey dressed with rice, bread and venison. After dinner we caught some fiddlers and fished for sheepshead, of which we caught ten or more. Noah with a can of fiddlers was running to the bass, when he caught his foot on a stick and measured his length on the beach, letting the fiddlers which scampered for shelter. We had a good sail home where we arrived near sun down.

Nov. 23.

School went well today, but the pupils didn't have very good lesson this morning. Received a letter a a recitation from Alice today. Jean brought them up yesterday evening. I feel very well today, but the bo didn't feel well this morning. Mr. Ki and Reese went on a coon hunt today. This afternoon I asked Dan what "trousers" were and he said "little-dogs aint they"; I then asked him what the word foundry mea and he said "a place where yo git foundered aint it." We got caught in a heavy shower th evening, but I jerked the sail down and we made a tent ove the boat with it till the rain wa past. Yesterday morning as we were goi through the bay Noah shot twice a what he took to be a big gator swim ming rapidly, but which turned out

to be the tof of a small oyster bar, out of the water; The boys nearly died with merriment when they descovered their ridiculous mistake.

Nov. 26

I washed several pieces this morning and sewed on my necktie putting on new pieces over the worn part at the top. I wrote to Helen, David & Book & Co. I rid Cornelius and Alice. I went back in to the woods for a half mile and dug up some Stilingia roots to make some blood purifier. My blood is bad, for two boils are coming, one on each hand in exactly the same place. Have read some and studied some and prefared some piece for my pupils to use Christmas.

Nov. 27

Read and copied pieces all day until about four o'clock, when I took a sail down to Harts. Jan Johnson brought a bundle of papers and a letter for me.

I stayed for supper and about seven o'clock started and rowed for home. Had a moonlight row, and it was just beautiful on the bay. My hands are quite sore, and Velma procured sage and bound them both up soon after I got there.

Nov. 28.

Slept badly last night for my hands hurt me. School went well, but I couldn't get much energy in my teaching, because my hands hurt me so much and I had fever.

This afternoon Mr. Bostick visited the school for two hours. He spoke to the pupils, and his talk was a good one. Had a high fever when I got home. I read Spofendyke's Suspenders, and several other funny things to the kids, and I think their sides are sore.

Nov 29.

Slept badly last night, for my hands

hurt me greatly. Have been nearly sick all day with the boils and a high fever caused by them. The day has been rainy and windy, but this evening we had a clear spell to sail up in. The wind was fair and we sailed clear up. I let out half an hour early this evening, for I was afraid we would get caught in a squall and also because I was too sick to teach longer.

Nov ~~27~~ 30

My hands are much better today and I feel like a different man today. School didn't seem to go well today, for I didn't seem to have my usual control over the children, or else they were unusually mischevious. I had to take away Dave and Blanche's knives today and Dan seemed to think I had taken mine for good. He became very sparky and refused to receive back the

knife after school. George nearly broke his desk by jerking it down too hard this evening and so I made him fan it up and down a dozen times to the vast amusement of the other pupils. I smiled a little myself for I couldn't help it. Sailed most of the way home this evening.

~~Nov. 30~~ Dec. 1

Hands much better and school went much better today. I nearly had to whip some, and expect I will have to tomorrow for they have grown careless since I have been sick. The Grammar and reader I ordered for Fassa Williams came today, only the reader was a Fifth instead of a Fourth. Received a letter from Alice also.

Dec. 2, 1895.

Just discovered that I had lost a day some where and

had to hunt it up. I find I am one day nearer Christmas than I thought. The day has been rainy and we were caught in a tremendous rain this morning. George and I stoffed in the old shack at Mr. Hall's and waited for an hour then went into Mrs. Hall's and talked to the old lady until the rain ceased. We then went down to the bay and whistled for the Hart children. They came all bundled up in their father's coats and looking very comical. Ruby had a coat, Pearl had a hunting-jacket and Velma was almost lost in a coat. The coats reached to their heels. I taught from ten o'clock to three fifteen and then let out for the old school house was too wet to be heated.

Dec. 3

Did some washing this morning and then worked on a Montgomery Ward order. After that wrote to Alice and Genevieve. I went sailing this afternoon, and beat clear down to the lower end of the bay, then sail up to the oyster bar and got a few oysters. Read some tonight to the fam ily. Nearly upset in the creek to-da and had to be lively about jerkin loose the sheet rope, which I had clea down.

Dec. 4

Got up late this morning, and after breakfast spent the whole mo ing in working out Mr. Kirkland's account. Found that Mr. Kolh has certainly made some mistake in the account, which do not bel Mr. Kirkland. After dinner I made a kite for the boys, and c was the first the two oldest had

ver seen. It was quite a marvel to all of them and they had a great time with it until they tore it up. Noah and I went sailing down to the Bay. We had a fine wind. It is now turning cool very fast and I danced a jig a few minutes ago to get warmed up. Every thing is as wet as it has been this year, for we had a tremendous rain last night and yesterday and this morning.

Dec. 5

Weather cold and windy. School was small today, only seven. The pupils were cold, and shivered all morning and I was more too warm myself. After dinner I moved two benches outside and we all stayed out on the south side in the sun until half hour before turning out time. The children looked funny bundled up and sitting around in the scrub out of the wind. The old school yard is all scrub behind the house.

I do not like teaching outside but it was certainly better than staying inside and freezing. Two of the boys stayed at home to gather rice today and only Dan went with me. We had a tremendous wind to go down with and a very good one back to the island. I received mail today from home, Alice and Miss Vick. I heard one of the boys say this evening that he was "going to spil out" something his brother was writing; this is a common expression among them.

Dec 6

Cold this morning and I was glad to wear an overcoat. The boys were nearly frozen with their thin clothes. Mr Kirk went hunting this morning and has just returned without a deer. School has gone well today but some of my pupils were lazy and I had to be a little stern with them. The pupils were cold much of

this morning and I think that is what ails Dan for he was sick this afternoon I am surprised so more of them are sick. Today Cora brought an egg and some salt and made a poultice from the white of the egg and the salt for my hand. The poultice is the most effective I have ever seen, for in an hour's time the boil was open, and I felt much relieved.

Dec 7.

The morning was cold and cloudy and we all shivered. The mast hole broke out and we had to row both ways this time. School went well today, and I had only one bit of trouble. I had to shake Ruby, for not studying. Will read some tonight to my heathen. Raymen Hall is beating rice outside in the mortar. Mr Kirkland killed a turkey today.

Dec. 8.

Sailed down with a fine wind this morning and rowed back again a finer wind this evening. School went well today. I received a letter and check for $35.00 from Mr. Bostick today, also a letter containing 25¢ from James Kellum, to pay for my bike pump. I also received a letter for "Mr. F. W. Hall" which I discovered to be for some other F. W. Hall than myself, and as it seemed contain a good many sweet secrets I did not read it, but will send it back without being read.

Dec 9.

School went well today. Dan and Arthur played sick this morning and got to stay at home. This evening a George and I were coming home we stopped at a bary and got a lot of fine oysters. I ate a pint of raw oysters for supper. Wrote out my order to Montgomery

Ward & Co. Tonight. The order came to $34.11 and I sent $35.00 to pay for goods and freight charges.

Dec. 10.

Started early and rowed to Marco this morning. Had a strong tide to row against and no wind. Reached Marco about 11 o'clock. Got Mr. Hart to sign my monthly report. Sent off my order. Sent $10.00 to Charley Foster to pay debt owed him. After eating my dinner I went up to see Miss Vick and we arranged our program for Christmas. Miss Vick, Mr Walker and I practiced on a song "Joy to the World", for an hour or two. Rained for three hours this afternoon and after the rain I started home. Rowed all the way except through Halle Bay and Henderson Bay. Reached home about an hour after Sundown. Camilla Shaw recited her recitation for me this afternoon. She speaks very well. She is a beautiful child.

Dec. 11.

Sunday today and I have read nearly

all the afternoon. This morning Nan and I went sailing in the old sloop of Walter Carroll's. We nearly upset on the Bay, and for a minute the water just poured in over the railing of the half-deck. Nabb grabbed lively for the sheet-rope which he had cleated down. I was in such a position that I could do nothing but sit up on the high side and look on. I was amused but was glad we didn't capsize, because a cold wind was blowing, and I was wrapped up well in over coat, sweater, and other clothes. I might have had difficulty in swimming. The whole day was cold and unpleasant. In the warmest part of the afternoon I took a bath in the creek. I read for an hour this evening to the Kirks.

Dec 12.

I was cold nearly all night, last night, although I had enough cover. The day has been very pleasant, but

a little cool. School went well today and I had time to have my pupils re-hearse their recitations several times. I think they are going to do finely, especially Velma. I found that Mamie had the same piece that a pupil at Margo has. We sailed part of the way home this evening and rowed the rest.

Dec. 13

Weather warm and pleasant today. We had to row down to the Bay this morning, and then we beat the rest of the way. School went well today, but Ruby wouldn't study much; I shook her a little but out to have shaken her hard. A storm came up this evening and we sailed up the Bay with a strong fair wind, but in a hard rain.

Dec. 14

Cold this morning and the boys shivered. I felt cool myself, and thought it better to build my pupils a fire outside and let them sit around it.

Sailed down this morning with a fine wind, but had to row back this evening. Mr. Kirkland came in this evening with two deer on his mule, and he will go to Marco tomorrow. Children practiced their pieces this evening and are improving.

Dec. 15.

Windy and somewhat unpleasant today. School went well today and I allowed a little relaxation to my pupils this afternoon by permitting them to draw and read ~~out of~~ in the Physiology. This evening coming home we stopped at the bar and secured some oysters. I ate almost a quart of raw ones for supper, and they were delicious. Oysters are plentiful here. Received a letter from Alice, and also received some samp literature from Cook & Co. Received Fourth and Fifth Reader from Washburn.

Dec. 16

Got up before daylight this morning because Mr. Kirkland and the boys wanted to go on a coon hunt. We boys got started to school early this morning, and as I had some time I spent it in cutting up some wood. School went well today, and Ruby astonished me by working all her problems at a great rate. She is a queer, nervous little piece, but I like her much for she is lively and merry. Learned today that Blanche may go with me to Alva Xmas week.

Dec. 17

Went to Marco today and sailed all the way down. I went in the old boat and it was terribly soppy and nasty. Miss Vick had a bad cold. Mrs Walker has given up her part of the entertainment and so our song has "gone up the spout". I left Marco at twelve oclock and went out of

Big Marco Pass and rowed up the coast to Little Marco Pass. The tide was coming into Marco Pass and I had to pull my boat against a terriffic current. The current was so strong that I finally had to run up on the beach and get out and wade and pull the boat by hand. I had to row four miles but the gulf was very smooth. After reaching Little Marco I fished for three hours and got a number of lites but only caught one sheep-head and one red-fish. Had to row home and was very tired. The boys were so lazy that I thought they would not clean my fish They are so worthless that they are not worth the powder it would take to blow them up. Got a letter from home and from "Pen". Reese & Noah came in this evening with two deer and a turkey. Plenty of meat

Dec. 15

Stayed at home today and did a little washing this morning, then I

lped George & Dan make two kites. Dan's kite was about 27 inches and George's nearly 4 feet. Bad business for Sunday but I had no other day to do it before Christmas. After dinner I read until night in Cosmopolitan and Review of Reviews.

Dec. 19.

School went well today. Had to shake Ruby for laziness. Received a letter from Alice and one from Susy today. Got oysters this evening at the bar and shelled a quart which I ate raw for supper. The boys had come in with two deer and we had fresh venison for supper.

Dec. 20.

Rowed down this morning and sailed back with a fine wind this evening. Had some trouble today with Glandes for he struck little Ruby a fierce blow in anger. I shook him good. He was sorry to do it. Dan was sick

today.

Dec. 21

The boys came in this evening with three deer which they are going to take to Marco tomorrow. School went well today and I had no trouble with my children. It drizzled a little today.

Dec 22

Good school today. Little Lillie Demeritt came and I think she will come regularly. She is a cute little child. Sailed up this evening with a fine wind. Had a slight race with the boys who came out of the creek just as we came to the landing.

Dec 23.

Rowed down this morning, but sailed back this evening. Practice all afternoon on our Christmas piece. I learned today that Mr. Demeritt will give me Little Lillie if she will consent to go with me. If I can

I tried the big kite of George and nearly broke it up before it would fly. Dan was sick today. Little Lillie said "Mary Had a Little Lamb" to day, which was my first speech nearly 17 years ago.

Dec 24

I arose early this morning and after breakfast made myself ready to go to Marco to help with the Christmas tree. I went with the two oldest boys, who were taking four turkeys down for sale. The rest of the family went in the old boat. I helped with the tree until two o'clock then Miss Nick and I had our pupils practise their recitations for an hour more, after which I again helped with the tree until supper time. I took supper at Collier's. I shot a Roman candle and sent up a paper balloon after supper. The exercises commenced at eight for we were delayed by to of the Collier girls.

The entertainment was good and I think every one enjoyed themselves. Mr. Fudlow brought in two chairs and seated his wife and colored servent (nurse), in the front part of the audience, as there was no place else for them. I thought nothing of it, but Mr. Dick Hall — no relation of mine — was greatly offended that a "nigger" should sit down in front of him. He at once jumped up and with his wife was going to leave. Mr. Fudlow learned what was the trouble and became so angry that I feared he would thrash Mr. Hall then and there, but he finally quieted down, and taking his wife and the nurse girl, went home. He was half drunk, but Dick Hall was silly.

The tree was loaded with presents and after distributing them, the people were dismissed. After the entertainment the people went over to the hotel and had a dance. I watched them for a awhile, then went to my room and got ready to go home. The Kirklands stayed an hour and then we started reaching

home about 1 o'clock I at once tumbled into bed.

Dec 25

Christmas day but a very disagreeable one to me. I left Kirkland as early as could get away to go to Tiburon, to spend my holidays. I rowed to the Gulf then sailed for a mile or two, then rowed until five miles north of Hafler where, about four o'clock I encountered a N.W. squall which kicked up quite a sea. I rowed for two hours against wind and waves and made only about two miles. Darkness came on and the wind changed to N.E. and it began to rain. I put up my sail and sailed to Punta Rassa where I arrived about two o'clock Monday morning. I was so tired, cold, wet and miserable that I could hardly walk and I staggered all over the beach. Just as I reached Punta Rassa North Easter came up which would have stopped my travel if it had caught me a few miles down the coast.

Dec 26

I couldn't sleep well, so I got up and put on dry clothes. My kitten was sleeping on top of me when I awoke. The family were all away from the boarding house, so I went over to Shultz and secured some breakfast, which made me feel much better. I was dressed rather oddly, for my pants were too short, and came away above my old wet brogans, one of which had no clasp on it and was tied with a piece of white cord. I had on my old red sweater with the collar outside my coat, and a pair of 5¢ socks wet and discolored with salt water curled down over my shoe tops exposing my dainty(?) ankles. At Shultz they must have taken me for a tramp for they all looked curiously at me. The noted linguist and translator of Quo Vadis, Dr. Benson is at Shultz's spending the winter. He looked curiously at me and made some casual remark about the weather. If they all did think me a tramp they were not for wrong.

I left Punta Rassa as soon as I could and

reached Myers at sundown, after a tiresome day of rowing and beating against a head wind. I dressed for supper, and found my face nearly blistered by the sun. After supper I went to the M. E. church to attend a Xmas tree which I enjoyed greatly. After the entertainment I walked up to Mr. Hendersons with Dora W. whom I met at the church. I was so dizzy from having been on the waves all day that I sometimes staggered which made me ashamed of myself and for which I apologized to Dora by explaining the cause of my seeming intoxication.
I took all my Roman candles to Hendersons and Dora and I had fire works. I tried to tune Dora's new guitar but two of the strings broke so I gave it up and went to my room at Hill's, and tumbled into bed.

Dec. 27

I left Myers about eight oclock this morning and reached home just at dark this evening. Part of the time I rowed and part of the time I sailed. I sailed about 13 miles but the wind

was very mild. I passed the Grey Eagle and the Louise. I nearly got lost after leaving the boat for father has had all the "cabbage" trees cut down that stood near the little gate, and I couldn't find the gate in the darkness and high grass. Mother was very glad to see me and was much surprised too ~~see~~ Father was glad to see the kitten which I pulled from my pocket where I had stuck it for convenience in carrying

Dec. 28.

I have cut cane all day and find some of it frozen. I felt very well after my tough trip from Marco. I called at Miss Pearde this evening Mrs Evens is there and the ladies played and sang I enjoyed the music as well as the conversation

Dec. 29

I cut cane this morning and this afternoon I planted some. I was invited to take supper with Brutons this evening which I did. Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Raymond were there and we had a pleasant evening. Miss Pearde and Mrs. Evens took supper at our home.